

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of the proposal : **Raising participation in the Post 16 offer for students from low income families.**

Department : Children's Services

Name of lead officer : Martin Goff

Publication date: 31/05/2012

Review date: 01/12/2012

Departmental Manager Approval by :

Departmental Manager Approval date :

Main purpose and aims of the policy, plan or project

The proposal is for a pilot that trials support for Hampshire students from low income families to access the Post 16 education and training offer in the context of Raising of the Participation Age (RPA). The timing of the proposed introduction of this support coincides with changes in support for low income students, particularly the withdrawal of the Education Maintenance Allowance with replacement by a more targeted national bursary scheme, and the expectation that by 2013 100% of 17 year olds will participate in Education, Training or Employment with training. The support can be reviewed annually and the timescale for the pilot is four years up to 2015/16 when the RPA applies to 18 year olds.

Main elements of the policy, plan or project

In 2012/13 there is an expected cost to the County Council, that will be reported within the Home to School Transport budget, of approximately £73,000. Monies can be distributed through colleges and training providers following guidance provided by Hampshire County Council. Students would apply to the college/provider that they attend for support with their transport costs and so there would be no condition that they attend a certain college; this avoids restricting choice. Support would be dependent upon the learner having adequate attendance and completion of the course. There is other funding available to students, in particular the national bursary scheme. The guidance will make it clear that this other support should be accessed before any call on this support to ensure that there is no duplication.

Other initiatives that align with the RPA include targeted work placements, work trials, developing a wider apprenticeship offer, a review of the post 14 LDD curriculum , the funding of other bodies such as Prince's Trust to provide training opportunities and targeted courses that improve qualifications in English and Mathematics.

Underlying legislation & Policy

The Education and Skills Act 2008 places duties local authorities to promote the effective participation in education or training of all 16 and 17 year olds resident in their area; and to make

arrangements to identify young people resident in their area who are not participating. This pilot will promote participation.

Detailed Assessment

Age:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Disability:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Faith:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Gender:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Transgender:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Race:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Sexual Orientation:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Marriage / civil partnership:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Pregnancy & maternity:	Impact : No Direct Impact
Other factors: Students from Low Income Families	Impact : Medium
Any specific issues identified:	Students from Low Income families will be supported by this pilot. This will enable them to get to college and will encourage their attendance which in turn improves achievement.

Details of why some groups are low and/or no impact

This is a positive impact pilot which identifies low income families for support.

Conclusion

Local authorities have a key role to champion the needs of young people in their areas and work with local partners to achieve full participation. The Education and Skills Act 2008 places duties local authorities to promote the effective participation in education or training of all 16 and 17 year olds resident in their area; and to make arrangements to identify young people resident in their area who are not participating. Although the provision of support for transport for this group of students is not a specific requirement this pilot will promote participation for students in this vulnerable group.

For more information please visit the [Hampshire County Council Equality & Diversity web page](#).